

**From:** noisebrain  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/16/01 10:02pm  
**Subject:** settlement is ineffective

The agreement has been written up in many editorials, and they all agree,

1. It is easy to see how microsoft can get around almost all the restrictions
2. It is difficult to see how the government will enforce any of it

(and more so given your poor track record- you're still coming to terms with issues that were current 6 years ago, and have not begun to look at what Microsoft has done in the last couple years).

Isn't an antitrust settlement supposed to do something concrete to rectify the situation when it's been found to be a problem (which it has)?

The Microsoft issue is like the railroads and the phone company - it's not just about a company or a self-contained industry. The computer industry is arguably a large part of America's technological and economic leadership. The investigation HAS established that Microsoft has hurt competition - something that everyone in the computer industry already knows ...Microsoft is so dominant that people are afraid to even speak! By not fixing this situation you're hurting America's future.

John Lewis  
University of Southern California